

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Daniel Ovanezian on 09/28/2006.

The application has been amended as follows: in line 8 of ^{claim}line 24 replace the recitation "power to the" for "power to a".

Am
11-8-06

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-49 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: claims 1-49 are allowed because the references cited fail to teach, as applicant has a loop extender communications module having a power supply coupled to the ' the first local loop and the second local loop for receiving power and control signal and providing power and control signal to a first local loop and the second local loop, and coupled to the plurality of loop extenders for providing the control signal and power to the plurality of loop extenders; providing power to a loop extender communications module having a power supply by supplying a voltage between a first local loop of the plurality of local loops and a second local loop of the plurality of local loops for providing power to a plurality of loop extenders; and transmitting control signals to a loop extender communications module having a power supply via the first local loop and via the second local loop, receiving the